GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:505
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
REFORMING JAIL INMATES
Barman Shri Ranen

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether absence of professionally structured training to lower level staff in Indian jails is adversely affecting the reform process amongst the prisoners;

(b) if so, whether the Government is considering to issue suitable comprehensive guidelines and giving financial support to State Governments in this regard with a view to helping jail staff to handle issues relating to reforming the jail inmates in a better way; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (c): No, Sir. Providing training to prison staff is an integral part of the prison management and more so for effecting reform process amongst the prisoners. Since prisons is a "State" subject, the State Governments are responsible for providing adequate training to its officials involved in prison management including implementation of measures involving reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners. Most of the State governments have their established training institutes for providing requisite training to the lower level prison staff.

There is a Regional Institute of Correctional Administration at Vellore, Tamil Nadu which imparts training to prison officials of the southern states namely Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Besides, the Government of India under the Ministry ofHome Affairs is managing the Institute of Correctional Administration, Chandigarh which provides training to various prison officers from all over the country. The Institute also acts as a regional institute for imparting regular/periodic training to prison officials from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and J&K.The Institute of Correctional Administration at Chandigarh is fully funded by the government of India.The scheme is under the consideration of Ministry of Finance.